

REMARKS

At the time of the Final Office Action dated December 26, 2003, claims 2-8 were pending in this application, and claims 3 and 4 were rejected. Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 2 and 5-8. Claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled, and thus, the rejection of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness based upon Nagao in view of Brown has been rendered moot.

Applicant has made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. Accordingly, and in view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant hereby respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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